

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Currently amended) A method for navigating and displaying a plurality of
2 relational objects, the method comprising:
3 receiving a selection input;
4 identifying, based on the selection input, a focus node, the focus node being one of a
5 plurality of relational objects, wherein:
6 the plurality of relational objects comprise a node link structure;
7 the node link structure further comprising a plurality of hierarchies of nodes;
8 a first of the plurality of hierarchies shares the ~~common~~ focus node with a second
9 of the plurality of hierarchies;
10 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy and a second
11 parent node in the second hierarchy;
12 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
13 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
14 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; ~~and~~
15 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
16 nodes; and
17 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
18 nodes;
19 displaying the focus node on a display medium;
20 determining a context for the focus node, wherein the context identifies one of the first
21 and second hierarchies; and
22 displaying the parent node and at least one child sub-tree from the hierarchy identified by
23 the determined context without displaying the parent node and child sub-tree in
24 the hierarchy not identified by the determined context.
25 ~~determining whether a child node of the focus node exists, wherein the child node~~
26 ~~comprises one of a plurality of relational objects other than the focus node, the~~
27 ~~child node having a subordinate relationship with the focus node;~~
28 ~~if a child node exists, displaying on the display medium, the child node;~~

29 ~~determining whether a parent node of the focus node exists, wherein the parent node~~
30 ~~comprises one of the plurality of relational objects other than the focus node and~~
31 ~~the child node, the focus node having a relationship subordinate to the parent~~
32 ~~node; and~~
33 ~~if a parent object exists, displaying on a display medium the parent node.~~

1 2. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein displaying the focus node
2 further comprises displaying the focus node in a textual format, wherein the textual format is a
3 format other than a format that illustrates the focus object and the first related object as nodes
4 connected by a graphical relationship symbol such as a line or arrow.

5 3. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
6 displaying as a top grouping a subset of the plurality of relational objects; and
7 wherein receiving a selection input further comprises receiving a selection input that
8 corresponds to a selected one of the relational objects in the top grouping.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a find input;
3 performing a search of the plurality of relational objects in order to determine whether
4 one or more of the relational objects is associated with the find input; and
5 if one or more of the relational objects is associated with the find input, displaying as a
6 find grouping the one or more relational objects associated with the find input.

7 5. (Original) The method recited in Claim 4, wherein:
8 the selection input identifies one of the relational objects in the find grouping.

1 6. (Original) The method recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2 one or more of the plurality of relational objects represents a person.

1 7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein determining a context for
2 the focus node further comprises:

3 receiving a selection identifying of one of the first and second parent nodes, wherein the
4 context identifies the hierarchy containing the parent node identified by the
5 received selection. ~~the focus node is the common node of the first and second~~
6 hierarchies.

1 8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein ~~identifying~~ determining a
2 context of the focus node comprises:

3 ~~identifying~~ determining a context of the focus node based on the selection input.

1 9. (Currently amended) A method of using a computer system for navigating and
2 displaying a plurality of nodes, the method comprising:

3 receiving data;

4 identifying, based on the received data, a focus node, wherein:

5 the focus node is one of the plurality of nodes and is a common node of a first
6 hierarchy of nodes and a second hierarchy of nodes;

7 the plurality of nodes are included in a node link structure;

8 the plurality of nodes include the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy
9 of nodes;

10 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy of nodes and
11 has a second parent node in the second hierarchy of nodes;

12 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
13 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
14 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; ~~and~~

15 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
16 nodes; and

17 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
18 nodes;

19 identifying a context of the focus node, wherein the context is associated with one of the
20 first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy of nodes; and

21 providing data to allow a display medium to display the focus node and the one or more
22 nodes of the child sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated
23 with the context of the focus node without displaying the child sub-tree of the
24 hierarchy of nodes that are not determined to be associated with the context of the
25 focus node.

1 10. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 9 further comprising:
2 providing data to allow the display medium to display the parent node of the focus node
3 in the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated with the context of the focus
4 node.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 9 wherein the context of the
2 focus node is associated with the first hierarchy of nodes.

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 9 further comprising:
2 identifying the first and second hierarchies of nodes;
3 identifying the first and second parent nodes; and
4 identifying the first and second child sub-trees of nodes.

1 13. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 9 wherein determining a
2 context of the focus node comprises:
3 receiving data identifying one of the first parent node and the second parent node,
4 wherein if the first parent node is identified, the context is associated with the first
5 hierarchy of nodes and if the second parent node is identified, the context is
6 associated with the second hierarchy of nodes.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 9 wherein identifying a
2 context of the focus node comprises:
3 identifying a context of the focus node based on the received data.

1 15. (Currently amended) A method of using a computer system for navigating and
2 displaying a plurality of nodes, the method comprising:
3 providing data that identifies a focus node, wherein:
4 the focus node is one of the plurality of nodes and is a common node of a first
5 hierarchy of nodes and a second hierarchy of nodes;
6 the plurality of nodes are included in a node link structure;
7 the plurality of nodes include the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy
8 of nodes;
9 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy of nodes and
10 has a second parent node in the second hierarchy of nodes;
11 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
12 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
13 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; and
14 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
15 nodes; and
16 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
17 nodes;
18 providing data that identifies a context of the focus node, wherein the context is
19 associated with one of the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy of
20 nodes; and
21 displaying, on a display medium, the focus node and the one or more nodes of the child
22 sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated with the context of
23 the focus node without displaying the child sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes that
24 are not determined to be associated with the context of the focus node.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 15 further comprising:
2 displaying on a display medium the parent node of the focus node in the hierarchy of
3 nodes determined to be associated with the context of the focus node.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 15 wherein the context of
2 the focus node is associated with the first hierarchy of nodes.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 15 further comprising:
2 providing data to identify the first and second hierarchies of nodes;
3 providing data to identify the first and second parent nodes; and
4 providing data to identify the first and second child sub-trees of nodes.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 15 wherein determining a
2 context of the focus node comprises:
3 providing data identifying one of the first parent node and the second parent node,
4 wherein if the first parent node is identified, the context is associated with the first
5 hierarchy of nodes and if the second parent node is identified, the context is
6 associated with the second hierarchy of nodes.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The method recited in Claim 15 wherein identifying a
2 context of the focus node comprises:
3 providing data identifying a context of the focus node.

1 21. (Currently amended) A computer program media comprising processor
2 executable code for:
3 identifying, based on received data, a focus node, wherein:
4 the focus node is one of ~~the~~ a plurality of nodes and is a common node of a first
5 hierarchy of nodes and a second hierarchy of nodes;
6 the plurality of nodes are included in a node link structure;
7 the plurality of nodes include the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy
8 of nodes;
9 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy of nodes and
10 has a second parent node in the second hierarchy of nodes;
11 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
12 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
13 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; ~~and~~
14 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
15 nodes; and

16 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
17 nodes;
18 identifying a context of the focus node, wherein the context is associated with one of the
19 first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy of nodes; and
20 providing data to allow a display medium to display the focus node and the one or more
21 nodes of the child sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated
22 with the context of the focus node without displaying the child sub-tree of the
23 hierarchy of nodes that are not determined to be associated with the context of the
24 focus node.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The computer program product recited in Claim 21
2 further comprising processor executable code for:
3 providing data to allow the display medium to display the parent node of the focus node
4 in the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated with the context of the focus
5 node.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The computer program product recited in Claim 21
2 wherein the context of the focus node is associated with the first hierarchy of nodes.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The computer program product recited in Claim 21
2 further comprising processor executable code for:
3 identifying the first and second hierarchies of nodes;
4 identifying the first and second parent nodes; and
5 identifying the first and second child sub-trees of nodes.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The computer program product recited in Claim 21
2 wherein the code for determining a context of the focus node further comprises processor
3 executable code for:
4 receiving data identifying one of the first parent node and the second parent node,
5 wherein if the first parent node is identified, the context is associated with the first
6 hierarchy of nodes and if the second parent node is identified, the context is
7 associated with the second hierarchy of nodes.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The computer program product recited in Claim 21
2 wherein the code for identifying a context of the focus node further comprises processor
3 executable code for:

4 identifying a context of the focus node based on the received data.

1 27. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
2 a processor, and
3 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory comprising processor executable code
4 for:

5 identifying, based on received data, a focus node, wherein:

6 the focus node is one of ~~the~~ a plurality of nodes and is a common node of a first
7 hierarchy of nodes and a second hierarchy of nodes;

8 the plurality of nodes are included in a node link structure;

9 the plurality of nodes include the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy
10 of nodes;

11 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy of nodes and
12 has a second parent node in the second hierarchy of nodes;

13 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
14 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
15 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; ~~and~~

16 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
17 nodes; and

18 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
19 nodes;

20 identifying a context of the focus node, wherein the context is associated with one of the
21 first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy of nodes; and

22 providing data to allow a display medium to display the focus node and the one or more
23 nodes of the child sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated
24 with the context of the focus node without displaying the child sub-tree of the

25 hierarchy of nodes that are not determined to be associated with the context of the
26 focus node.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The computer system recited in Claim 27 further
2 comprising processor executable code for:
3 providing data to allow the display medium to display the parent node of the focus node
4 in the hierarchy of nodes determined to be associated with the context of the focus
5 node.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The computer system recited in Claim 27 wherein the
2 context of the focus node is associated with the first hierarchy of nodes.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The computer system recited in Claim 27 further
2 comprising processor executable code for:
3 identifying the first and second hierarchies of nodes;
4 identifying the first and second parent nodes; and
5 identifying the first and second child sub-trees of nodes.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The computer system recited in Claim 27 wherein the
2 code for determining a context of the focus node further comprises processor executable code
3 for:
4 receiving data identifying one of the first parent node and the second parent node,
5 wherein if the first parent node is identified, the context is associated with the first
6 hierarchy of nodes and if the second parent node is identified, the context is
7 associated with the second hierarchy of nodes.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The computer system recited in Claim 27 wherein the
2 code for identifying a context of the focus node further comprises processor executable code for:
3 identifying a context of the focus node based on the received data.

1 33. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
2 means for identifying, based on received data, a focus node, wherein:

3 the focus node is one of ~~the~~ a plurality of nodes and is a common node of a first
4 hierarchy of nodes and a second hierarchy of nodes;
5 the plurality of nodes are included in a node link structure;
6 the plurality of nodes include the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy
7 of nodes;
8 the ~~common~~ focus node has a first parent node in the first hierarchy of nodes and
9 has a second parent node in the second hierarchy of nodes;
10 the ~~common~~ focus node is a parent node for a first child sub-tree of one or more
11 nodes in the first hierarchy and is a parent node for a second child sub-tree
12 of one or more nodes in the second hierarchy; ~~and~~
13 the first hierarchy does not include the second child sub-tree of one or more
14 nodes; and
15 the second hierarchy does not include the first child sub-tree of one or more
16 nodes;
17 means for identifying a context of the focus node, wherein the context is associated with
18 one of the first hierarchy of nodes and the second hierarchy of nodes; and
19 means for providing data to allow a display medium to display the focus node and the one
20 or more nodes of the child sub-tree of the hierarchy of nodes determined to be
21 associated with the context of the focus node without displaying the child sub-tree
22 of the hierarchy of nodes that are not determined to be associated with the context
23 of the focus node.